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May 26, 1981

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TO: SIG Participants (see list below)
FROM: Judge William P. Clark *WPC*
SUBJECT: Summary of Conclusions: Senior Intergovernmental Meeting on Cuba, May 26, 1981

The SIG met on May 26 to consider an initial approach for dealing with Cuba. The participants agreed on the following points:

1. Over the past few months Cuba has been off balance and on the defensive. We need to bring into play some concrete actions to maintain this momentum. The U.S. should implement or begin planning now measures to be taken over the next six months to lay the groundwork for future actions we may wish to take after a full review of our Cuba policy has been completed.
2. Initial steps need to be carefully calibrated to underline our resolve to deal firmly with Castro without drawing undue attention to the Cuba issue or provoking bold Cuban retaliatory actions until we are prepared to block or counter them.
3. State will proceed with measures to bring economic and diplomatic pressure to bear on Cuba and publicize Cuba's international activities.
4. DOD will take the lead in staffing out the military readiness measures.

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6. NSC will send State its proposal to set up a Radio Free Cuba, which State will begin staffing out.

7. State and Justice, with DOD and Coast Guard participation, will proceed with planning already well underway to prevent a repetition of the 1980 Mariel boatlift.

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State Dept. review completed RDS-3, 5/26/01 (Clark, William P.)

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8. State will begin staffing out a proposal for a private demarche to Cuba on the return of hardened criminals and other undesirables.

9. During this initial period, our public and private posture toward Cuba should be guided by several general rules:

-- make no positive reference to normalization, even as a distant goal;

-- keep direct contacts at a minimum, communicating publicly rather than privately whenever possible, and pursuing talks only on issues that the U.S., not Cuba, has an important interest in discussing; and

-- when we use threats, leave no doubt that we will respond, but avoid being too specific.

Participants:

State: Deputy Secretary William Clark (Chairman)
ARA - Tom Enders
C - Bud McFarlane
S/P - Paul Wolfowitz
ARA - Myles Frechette (notetaker)

DOD: Deputy Secretary Frank Carlucci
Under Secretary for Policy Fred Ikle

NSC: Admiral Nance
Roger Fontaine

JCS: General Pustay

CIA: Admiral Bobby Inmann

OVP: Ms. Nancy Bearg Dyke

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